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October 8, 2002
By Michelle Chan
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D. Gray
PATENT 100/08410
#18/Amendment A

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MANFRED BERNDT et al.

Application No.: 09/595,420

Filed: June 15, 2000

For: APPARATUS FOR THE OPERATION OF A MICROFLUIDIC DEVICE

Examiner: J. Brown

Art Unit: 1743

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 9, 2002, for which a request for a three month extension of time to respond up until October 9, 2002 (and requisite fee) is enclosed herewith, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based upon the following amendments and remarks:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 2, 3, 5 and 9 with the following like numbered claims:

2. (Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the material transport system is oriented within the second physical unit to provide at least one fluid to the microfluidic device in the mounting region of the first physical unit.

3. (Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the first interface component and the material transport system comprise at least one common conduit disposed in

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